

[22nd August 1960]

APPENDIX II.

[*Vide* answer to starred question No. 271 asked by Sri P. G. Manickam at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 22nd August 1960, page 298 *supra*.]

Places to which the provisions of the Madras Prevention of Begging Act, 1945, have been extended.

Name of Districts.

(1)	(2)
1 Virudunagar	Ramanathapuram.
2 Ootacamund	The Nilgiris.
3 Coimbatore	Coimbatore.
4 Tiruchirappalli	Tiruchirappalli.
5 Pudukkottai	Tiruchirappalli.
6 Madurai	Madurai.
7 Chingleput	Chingleput.
8 Palni	Madurai, North.
9 Nagercoil	Kanyakumari.
10 Palayamkottai	Tirunelveli.
11 Kancheepuram	Chingleput.
12 Mahabalipuram	Chingleput.
13 Chidambaram	South Arcot.
14 Erode	Coimbatore.
15 Vellore	North Arcot.
16 Kumbakonam	Thanjavur.
17 Srirangam	Tiruchirappalli.

APPENDIX III.

Vide answer to starred question No. 279 asked by Sri P. G. Manickam at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 22nd August 1960 on page 302 *supra*.]

Statement Placed on the Table of the House.

The items in the agenda and the summary of conclusions arrived at in the Third Annual Conference of Forest Officers during May 1960 are given below :—

SECTION A—PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.

1. *Physical targets*—Reorientation on the basis of availability of suitable sites; and, reduction where indicated by experience in the Second Plan.—The approach could be—

(1) To reduce the physical target wherever closer espacement was silviculturally called for. The increased quantity of work per unit area will inevitably result in reduction of the acreage to be dealt with.

(2) To stop further work on what have proved unsuitable sites, e.g., wattle in Punachi Range of Coimbatore South Division.

22nd August 1960]

(3) To adopt manageable targets, and resort to concentrated working in order to achieve complete stocking and a closed tree canopy as rapidly as possible. The only exception to this would be where crops are to be raised and established under horticultural conditions, as in the case of cashew.

The Conference decided against reduction in targets (as far as possible) or in the existing organization, but suggested the following to relieve the strain :—

(1) To spread move the work over a larger number of work centres; and

(2) to use less exacting species but capable of intermediate yields, as infillers.

The Conference gave also practical suggestions as to how such infillers are to be introduced so that the main species may be raised satisfactorily to the final espacement itself. These infillers would not be necessary with horticultural crops like cashew, or in commercial plantation like teak, wattle, etc. In all other cases like dry zone afforestation measures for soil conservation, such infillers could be widely adopted. Suitable species for the purpose would include—

- (1) *Cassia siamea*,
- (2) *Dalbergia paniculata*,
- (3) *Glyricidia maculata*,
- (4) *Lannea grandis*, and
- (5) *Gyrocarpus Jacquinii*, etc.

As regards cashew, for satisfactory stocking, it was agreed that the area should be completely cleared of all shrub growth, and intensive soil preparation achieved by ploughing (before planting)—with mechanical aids if need be. Field crops can also be helpfully raised in conjunction with cashew crops in the first two years either through kumridars or departmentally. The return from field crops would help also partially to offset the excess expenditure involved in complete clearance and ploughing. If kumridars are readily available, they should be encouraged and even granted handsome rewards as discussed later.

2. *Integrated staff plans based on assessment of work and achievement in the Second Plan.*—The Conference decided not to attempt integration of staff sanctioned specifically for any development schemes; but recommended that proposals should be submitted to Government for the absorption into the regular cadres of longstanding temporary (non-Plan) staff sanctioned in the normal course of administration.

3. *Targets for the Third Plan—General discussions.*—The Conference decided to execute all the schemes proposed, without reduction of physical targets and also to adopt a new scheme for setting up green manure seed farms.

[22nd August 1960]

As regards nature conservation, the State Wild Life Officer should submit specific proposals.

The Conference also stressed that in all estimates for the construction of buildings in the Third Plan, sufficient attention should be paid to the matter of providing sanitation and electricity.

There will be no addition to staff for executing the continuing schemes and additional staff would be applied for only in the case of new schemes.

4. *Permanent tree nurseries one for each district under ' Farm Forestry ' and 5. Farm Forestry—Scheme for implementing.*—The Conference took up for discussion items 4 and 5 together. It decided that to further farm forestry, there should be a permanent tree nursery run by the department for each development district. The nurseries would be provided with all modern equipment like pumpsets, sprinklers for irrigation, tractors, containers, etc. Such nurseries should be capable of attracting the imagination of the public and should serve to emphasize the departments' role in reconstructing the economy of the rural population.

As regards the Farm Forestry Scheme it was agreed that the scheme would best be implemented as an integral part of block development activities (i.e.), by the block development organization but with technical help of the Forest Department. Raising of green manure seed farms from 1961-62 will be part of the permanent nursery organization under Farm Forestry.

SECTION B—REGENERATION AND AFFORESTATION.

1. *Casuarina planting techniques—Closer spacing v. intensive watering—Optimum rotation rapid return v. maximum return early yield v. delayed yield.*—The Conference decided that the State Silviculturist should examine all the available data on casuarina cultivation in and outside the State and issue a comprehensive note to all the District Forest Officers. The note should deal with espacement, rotation, yield, watering regime and all allied matters. He might also refer to an article written by Sri M. S. Raghavan, former State Silviculturist, in 1947 in the " Indian Forester ".

The Conference recognized that according to the local conditions, the watering programme and all other cultural operations would have to be decided by the District Forest Officer concerned but he should make a report to his Conservator in advance (i.e.), as soon as the areas are selected for planting with casuarina.

2. *Eucalyptus hybrid planting—Extension of areas—Site selection—Protection against white-ants—Espacement, etc.*—The Chief Conservator of Forests pointed out here the extension of eucalyptus planting might open up a new avenue of successful work in the State. The Conference recommended that eucalyptus hybrid should be grown more extensively in the plains and medium elevation areas, as the results so far were encouraging. It is reported that the rate of annual increment could be as much as 4 tons per acre.

22nd August 1960]

To keep off white-ants, the Conference recommended (1) intensive watering wherever possible and (2) treatment with insecticides, using organic and inorganic materials alternatively. Mixing of sand with the soil in the nursery will ward off white-ant damage.

The spacing might not exceed 11 feet by 11 feet. Mechanized equipments should also be used wherever possible, especially for deep ploughing and soil preparation.

Wherever practical, in all low-rainfall areas, watering by sprinklers or with embedded pots should be introduced, in order to achieve full stocking and establishment in the first year.

3. (a) *Fuel regeneration technique—Reduction in size of individual plots to not more than 200 acres.*—The Conference decided that all the existing classifications such as A, B and C treatments be abolished and whole areas taken up for afforestation work after the disposal of existing standing growth. Any standing young plants of useful species will, however, not be removed but retained as part of the future crop. The minor details of technique would be left to the discretion of the local District Forest Officers but they should keep the higher officers always informed of any changes in technique.

(b) *Soil working in subsequent stages of planted crops to prevent stagnation.*—Soil working in subsequent stages has been recognized as essential for cashew in scrub forests and must be planned for. The same applies to wattle in grass lands. As for other crops, a report has to be made by the District Forest Officers before undertaking such works.

(c) *Reduction in espacement—to secure adequately stocked plantations rapidly especially for eucalyptus hybrid.*—Please see notes under paragraph 2.

(d) *Planting pits 1½ feet by 1½ feet by 1 foot.*—As deeper pits would increase the cost considerably and may not be practicable without increasing sides, the Conference decided that the present dimensions of 1 foot by 1 foot by 1 foot pits should continue.

4. *Saucer and pits v. sunken mounds.*—The present practices should continue, as found locally satisfactory.

5. *Utilization of modern mechanical aids in soil preparation.*—The efficacy of mechanized equipments in soil preparation was admitted beyond doubt. Wherever necessary, the Agriculture department should be approached for tractors, etc. The department should also try to acquire a few tractors and a bull-dozer to start with.

6. *Bamboo forest management—Revised methods—Intensive stocking.*—The Conference decided that the report of Sri John Joseph on bamboo forests should be made available to all the District Forest Officers, etc., and it should be the subject-matter for detailed discussion at a later opportunity.

[22nd August 1960]

The Working Plan Officers, in future, should pay greater attention in their prescriptions for bamboos and they should suggest ways for its perpetuation in localities where it is at all known to have flourished and there should be no conversion of bamboo areas to other crops, plantations. The existing Working Plan prescriptions contrary to this principle should be amended.

7. *Improvement to cashew planting techniques espacement, soil working, etc.*—Except for complete clearing of existing growth and intense soil working (deep ploughing) before planting, preferably employing mechanical equipment, the existing technique will be continued, but with closer spacing. Direct dibbling of seeds might give better results.

8. *Future working of areas planted with cashew.*—The Conference decided that in areas where cashew had failed, replanting should be done with closer espacement. Use of tractors for first ploughing and country plough in subsequent years can be resorted to.

9. *Breeding of cashew to evolve high yielding and blight resistant strains.*—The Conference decided that in every district where cashew was planted, cashew progeny orchards should be formed (25 acres), with select cashew seeds. The respective District Forest Officers should submit suitable proposals urgently.

The State Silviculturist should also help to take up such studies, utilizing available information from Ullal and Bapatla Cashew Research Centres and advise District Forest Officers suitably.

10. *Green manure seed farms.*—The Conference recommended that the scheme should receive close attention and every District Forest Officer must strive to raise such farms effectively and economically. The initial supply of seeds would be obtainable from the Agriculture Department. The most suitable sites available should be selected for the purpose.

11. (a) *Regeneration of sandalwood.*—The Conference decided that a survey and mapping of the spike affected areas should be undertaken immediately. It was also decided to open a vegetative propagation centre at Denkanikota. For artificial regeneration work from seed, if undertaken, seeds must be collected from disease resistant trees (i.e., trees standing at least apparently unaffected in a predominantly spiked area).

(b) *Exploitation of sandalwood.*—Resolved that all sandalwood coupes should be exploited on a three-year rotation forming where necessary smaller coupes with increased number of felling series in order to achieve more intense and timely explanation. The District Forest Officers should submit detailed proposals for the purpose with necessary draft amendments to Working Plans. They may also submit suitable specific proposals for the revision of wages (except Salem South) for labour employed on sandalwood extraction and conversion to their Conservators.

22nd August 1960]

12. *Industrial plantations such as wattle and bluegum.*—It was agreed that physical targets as planned must be achieved. Manurial treatment may be extended beyond the first years, repeated for two or three years, if necessary. The grass ground cover should be removed before the fire-season. This will not only help to minimize any fire hazards but will encourage lateral root development and better growth all round.

13. *Raising valuable shrub crops under electric transmission lines inside Research Forests.*—The Conference commended the scheme. If agreed to by the Electricity Board, the work may be done on an experimental scale in selected localities, for a start.

14. *Standard acre or planted acre.*—Resolved that except in the case of linear plantations of trees, the existing usage of term unit of unit area should continue (i.e.) by acre or hectare.

SECTION C—WORKING PLANS.

1. *Management of avenue trees under regular working plan.*—The Conference recognized the importance of maintaining and raising avenue trees on a more scientific basis. While agreeing that the existing management by Highways department might continue, this department might offer its help to study the locality factors and prepare regular Working Schemes. The department should undertake first, however, the planting of trees along its own (forest) roads wherever they pass through trees less tracts.

2. *Control maps—Control records—Proper upkeep and maintenance.*—The control maps and all other Working Plan Records should be maintained up to date and every District Forest Officer should take active steps to achieve this.

SECTION D—RESEARCH AND SILVICULTURE.

1. *Remedial measures for defoliator damage to Ailanthus excelsa.*—The Conference decided that the simple manual or mechanical removal of the insects in their pupal stage would appear to be the most practical method possible.

2. *Demonstration and seed plots in every division.*—The District Forest Officers should intimate the State Silviculturist the action taken so far, and they should ensure that the instructions were carried out successfully.

3. *Supply of silvicultural information by the District Forest Officers and Assistant Conservators of Forest for ledgering.*—The State Silviculturist should compile and send suitable pro formae to the District Forest Officers and Assistant Conservator of Forests to furnish him the requisite information.

4. *Silviculturist to be associated with Working Plan and other technical discussions.*—In future, in the general discussions of the Reconnaissance Report on any Working Plan, the State Silviculturist, the Forest Utilization Officer and the State Wild Life Officer should be associated.

[22nd August 1960]

SECTION E—GENERAL.

1. *Discussion on report of Asia Pacific Forestry Commission Session and Teak Sub-Commission.*—The reports were considered and recorded.

2. *Discussion on subjects of interest to this State arising out of Second Liaison Meeting at Forest Research Institute.*—Working Plan Officers should study the data on coppice fellings (and yield from subsequent rotations) in fuel felling series.

The State Silviculturist should interest himself in Research activities of the Regional Research Centres, Bangalore and Coimbatore and avail himself of the available assistance from them fully.

3. *Forest lands—Lease for Kumri cultivation—Fixation of Security Deposits—Uniformity in collection.*—The conference decided that the general agreement form must be common for the State but some conditions might have to be varied from division to division according to local requirements, with the minimum security deposit. In Kumri cultivation, trees must receive preferential treatment and the raising of agricultural crops should cease when once the tree crops are established. In areas where there is keen competition for Kumri cultivation, no reward need be given whereas, on the other hand, the right might be sold in auction. In areas where there is no competition or land hunger, rewards (for good work in establishing the tree crop) may be offered as an inducement. Specific proposals should be submitted in advance, by the District Forest Officers to their Conservators for sanction.

4. *Forest offences—Special rewards to subordinates for good work in forest offences.*—It was recognized that in the interests of better forest protection, rewards to subordinates must be liberalized. The Conference recommended that in all cases where the commission of a serious offence was successfully prevented or where an offence was promptly and successfully disposed of, rewards may be granted to the subordinates concerned. Such rewards should, however, be equated to the merits of the case rather than the revenue realized. Compounded cases concluded satisfactorily could also be considered for rewards. The rules in this regard should be examined with a view to their liberalization.

5. *Summary disposal methods to be devised for forest offences—*
(a) *Lock-up arrangements in every forest range office compound.*—The Conference decided that Inspector-General of Police be requested to extend the co-operation of Police Department in the matter of locking up accused in the forest offences (for not more than 24 hours) pending production before Sub-Magistrates.

(b) *Keeping seizures in forest offences by the Rangers.*—Resolved that the existing procedure of entrusting the seizures in forest offences to the village officers, should continue as this would strengthen the successful prosecution, if any, in the court. Wherever individual misbehaviour on the part of the Village Officers came to notice such cases should be pursued vigorously with the concerned Collectors.

22nd August 1960]

(c) *Powers to compound forest offences to Rangers up to Rs. 10.*—The Conference decided that Government be approached to empower all Forest Range Officers to compound Forest Offences and the limit of this power be increased to Rs. 25 from Rs. 10. This would be a radical step towards minimizing pendency of offences and prompt disposal of petty cases which form the bulk of forest offences.

(d) *Mobile courts once in a month in important centres.*—The Conference agreed that Government be addressed for the implementation of the suggestion.

(e) *Provision of Gazetted Assistants to each District Forest Officer where there is heavy pendency of offences.*—The Conference recommended that this proposal should be persevered with, in order to secure Government sanction.

(f) *Powers of Gazetted Officers to issue search warrants to accused in important cases.*—It was not considered advisable to press this question.

(g) *System of awarding marks for the detection of successful cases to all subordinates.*—This was considered neither necessary (in view of item 4 above) nor likely to prove much of an inducement to special efforts.

(h) *Service of G. notice on the spot.*—The District Forest Officers should submit their proposals already called for, expeditiously.

6. *Extension of powers of Forest Officers to areas outside Reserved Forests for detection of offences.*—The Conference directed that this suggestion should be examined in detail by the State Wild Life Officer and report submitted by him for further action.

7. *Difficulties experienced in the recovery of value, in respect of system.*—It was agreed that this were best left to the discretion of the District Forest Officers. The existing procedure could continue but the list of 'perishable' articles should be examined if firewood, charcoal and certain other items of Minor Forest Produce could be included as 'perishables', for immediate disposal. In such cases, the compounding fees should include any element of value of seizures. Timber and bullock carts or other means of transport should be continued to be retained as "seizures".

8. *Fires—Increased rate of rewards under Forest Hill village system.*—It was agreed that this were best left to the discretion of the District Forest Officers to suggest suitable rates and get it approved by the appropriate authorities. An increase in the rate of awards was agreed to in principle.

9. *Sanctioning additional clerical staff both in the Range Office and in the District Forest Office on the basis of number of offences received.*—The matter was left for discussion at a future date.

[22nd August 1960]

10. *Buildings—Electrification of all forest buildings wherever main supply is nearby by departmental agency to keep down costs.*—This was generally agreed to. Further action should be pursued to get orders permitting this electrification work done departmentally for expeditious and economic execution, on the analogy of Highways and Industries Departments.

11. *Improvements to subordinate quarters, especially sanitary facilities.*—Without increasing the overall cost considerably, in future all buildings estimates will include provision for minimum sanitary facilities. The type-design should be suitably revised. In the case of old quarters such facilities should be extended first to building located in open places and in the midst of populated areas.

12. *Transfer of all Public Works Department buildings now occupied by the Forest Officers and forest offices.*—The conference directed that a list of such buildings should be drawn up and the Public Works Department approached for their transfer, as this would result in expeditious and proper upkeep and maintenance. The forest department staff (Officers and Rangers) were fully trained to undertake this responsibility.

13. (a) *Uniforms—(i) Refashioning of uniforms for lower subordinates—Problem of green, (ii) Alternate uniforms for Courts and ceremonial wear for Rangers.*—The Conference requested the Chief Conservator of Forests to address the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards for changing the colour of turban cloth to the Local Board and Municipal Council employees; or alternatively to change the colour of the turbans of the lower subordinates of the Forest Department.

The necessity for alternative head gear for Range Officers was also felt. It was decided that Range Officers be paid some allowances for the proper upkeep and maintenance of uniforms as also partial reimbursement of initial cost, just like their counterparts in Police Department. Suitable proposals should be submitted by Conservators for further examination and action.

(b) *Supply of uniforms to Reserve Watchers.*—It was agreed that this question should be pursued vigorously.

(c) *Supply of woollen putties to Foresters and Forest Guards.*—Resolved to continue the *status quo* and that cotton putties should be got made of durable materials and from good varieties.

14. *Status of Forest Watcher—Classify as Forest Officer to facilitate Court proceedings.*—The Conference decide to support the move.

15. *Reorientation of beats, changes to suit modern conditions.*—The Conference decided to maintain the *status quo* for the time being. However, Working Plan Officers should examine this question in course of revision of Working Plans.

22nd August 1960]

16. *Section system—Need for abolition.*—It was agreed that the present section system should continue without any change and that each officer should be responsible for the discharge of the duties in his specific charge.

17. *Supply of photographs by District Forest Officers to State Silviculturist and Chief Conservator of Forests—Payment for accepted photos.*—This suggestion was commended for adoption. The officers were requested to collect and send as much useful material as possible. The negatives of accepted photos would be sent to State Silviculturist for taking copies and cost paid if retained. The negatives of unaccepted photos would be returned to the officer concerned.

17-A. *Powers of District Forest Officers to sanction estimates under Development Plan Schemes.*—It was agreed that the Government should be approached, suitably to invest such powers with District Forest Officers, in order to expedite matters, at least consistently with powers they already exercise in respect of non-Plan schemes.

18. *Quarterly abstract and review by State Silviculturist for information of District Forest Officers of all technical literature.*—The Conference decided that "Forest News-letter" be released monthly containing all matters of Technical Administration and general nature (including personnel) of local as well as all-India importance. This letter will be compiled by Personal Assistant (Development). All Officers should co-operate by sending any suitable material promptly.

19. *Publicity for departmental works and activity.*—(1) The Forest Utilization Officer was directed to make suitable proposals in this direction.

(2) The Conference recommended that greater attention should be paid to improving the Children's Corner in the Guindy Park, to make it more attractive as a recreational centre and a beauty spot. The Agri-Horticultural Gardens, Teynampet, should also be taken over and improved. These would serve centres facilities for wider publicity for the department.

20. (a) *Taking over private and Jagir forests.*—The Conference reiterated the urgent necessity for taking over all the private (including Jagir) forests for management and protection and recommended that in the national interests suitable accelerated action should be taken to achieve the same.

(b) *Reservation of ex-Zamin forests.*—The Conference directed that the common boundaries as surveyed by Revenue Settlement parties should be adopted as they were. Where all the cairns could not be shown in the maps, only numbers could be conveniently shown.

(c) *Larger organization for survey and demarcation.*—It was not considered desirable to have enlarged survey parties, in the interests of efficiency of supervision.

[22nd August 1960]

21. Grazing concessions to encourage villagers to give up goat rearing.—The Conference decided that all the District Forest Officers and other Forest Officers should do propaganda at every conceivable opportunity against goat rearing. In particular, at all Development Committee meetings in the districts and taluks. Effective measures must be enforced to prohibit and prevent the entry of goats inside reserved forests. Deterrent punishments also should be inflicted in all goat browsing cases. The co-operation of Community Development Organizations should be enlisted as suggested in the Note.

22. Grazing permits—and other permits—keeping in safe custody and ensuring effective check of stock and accounts.—The suggestion was approved and commended for action.

23. Maintenance of records—Register of reserved.—Even registers of reserved forests were in a bad state of preservation in many cases. It was agreed that the good office of the Madras Record Office should be sought for constructive suggestions and help.

24. Annual report on the inspection of forests with reference to each reserved forest and beat in each Range by the District Forest Officers.—The suggestion was considered as 'most desirable' and should be practised to fullest extent possible.

25. Delay in the submission of timber accounts and reply to objection statements.—The Conference deprecated the delays in the matters. It was accepted that all matter concerning accounts should be dealt with particularly, promptly and thoroughly and there should be no room for any complaints of delay. Where unavoidable indicated, officers might make suitable proposals (duly substantiating the necessity) for any additional staff.

26. Procedure for conduct of sales (petty, large, regular, annual).—The matter may be further examined regarding the limit of powers.

27. Disposal of trees on Reserved Forest lands transferred to other departments—value for such land.—The Conference agreed that there was a definite case for demanding the market value of any land (for the land and for the standing growth) and this should be the guiding principle whenever transfers of Reserved forest areas are agreed to in future.

28. Suggestion for amending certain rules made under section 26 of Madras Forest Act.—The question of amending the rules under Madras Forest Act should be examined in detail. The Assistant Conservator of Forests, Survey Division, Madras, should put up comprehensive proposals with full justifications.

29. Re-naming Timber Transit Rules as Forest Produce Transit Rules.—This was considered as "not practicable".

22nd August 1960]

30. *How to avoid fire in grass-land where industrial plantations have been raised.*—The Conference decided that the following would minimise fire damage and recommended the same for trial and adoption :—

(1) Reduction in espacement, in order to achieve a close canopy early ;

(2) Laying out of motorable tracks, in order to make the one more accessible and to serve as fire-breaks ;

(3) Destroying the grass by weedicides ahead of fire season, in order to reduce the mass of inflammable material ; and

(4) Providing equipments for fire-fighting, with packs of water spraying with high pressured nozzles. Advice of the Forest Research Institute to be sought.

The District Forest Officer, Ootacamund, should also undertake small-scale experiments for preparation of silage for the grass.

31. *Collection of myrobalams.*—The Conference attached great importance to the supervision of collection as work progressed of myrobalams by Forest Officers and not at the end of the lease. The question of long-term leases say for 5 or 10 years in favour of individuals or co-operative societies could be considered also, as this can help to minimise damage to the trees.

32. *Determination of Fair Price for fuel, etc., coupes.*—The Conference decided that the preparation of Fair Price statement should be done more carefully and confidentially by District Forest Officers in consonance with the instructions already issued. These statements should be sent to Conservators well in advance of the sales in a sealed cover.

33. *Solvency certificate—Production in respect of timber sales—Exemption.*—The form of bank reference and period of validity.—The Conference decided that on solvency certificate should be insisted upon for participation in any sales of forest produce collected at depots. No bank guarantees need be demanded either, so long as adequate cash deposits are made to establish the *bona fides* of the intending purchaser.

34. *Wild Life—Appointment of game wardens for the protection of wild life.*—The Conference sounded a word of caution in the matter of selection of Game Wardens as such wardens if not properly selected, might prove more unhelpful to the furtherance of wild life preservation.

35. *Forestry and wild life management and 36. Dual uses of forest land and formation of sanctum sanctorum in sanctuaries.*—The Conference directed that the State Wild Life Officer might examine setting apart some area as to be exclusively dedicated to wild life and inviolate so far as forest operations are concerned, especially in Mudumalai Wild Life Sanctuary area. The requirements of State for timber and its dependence on such areas should also be examined in detail in consultation with the Forest Utilization Officer, Madras.

It was also suggested that the casual Wild Life sanctuary area of 20 square miles might be considered for the purpose of creating a *sanctum sanctorum*.

[22nd August 1960]

SECTION F—ADMINISTRATION.

1. *New cadre of Junior Assistants from selected Rangers.*—The matter should be pressed with the Government.

2. (a) *Need for augmenting training facilities for Foresters,* (b) *Recruitment of Foresters and training in the Regional Foresters School and* (c) *Training of Foresters and Forest Guards.*—Resolved that there was no necessity to have such training courses at present.

3. *Promotion of Forest Guards to Foresters.*—As the note furnished under the item clarified the position, there was no further discussion.

4. *Restoration of remote or unhealthy tract allowance for Forest subordinates—Allowance for any staff located more than five miles from the nearest school located in recognised unhealthy tracts Javadis, etc.*—The Conference urged that Government be approached again to restore the "Remote areas allowances" for subordinates located in areas away from bus routes, schools or markets. The question of granting Hill allowance for the subordinates stationed in Gudalur should also be examined again.

5. *Improved or rationalised touring allowance.*—The suggestion was recorded as there might be no case for separate consideration for this department alone.

6. *Supervisory allowances to Managers of Conservator's offices.*—The Conference requested the Chief Conservator of Forests to examine the case in detail.

7. *Disciplinary cases—Prompt disposal.*—This was not considered as a 'subject' for discussions, as there should be no avoidable delay in dealing with such cases at any stage.

8. *Survey tests for Forest Guards and Foresters.*—It was agreed that such tests were not necessary, as all trained Forest Guards and Foresters should have the necessary experience.

9. *Proposals for appointing the respective Assistant Settlement Officers as Forest Settlement Officers.*—The Conference felt that it might be outside its scope to discuss this item.

10. *Payment of special pay to staff employed in survey parties.*—The Government might be addressed to sanction such special pay to our survey parties in ex-zamin forests.

11. *The designation of District Forest Officers to be changed as Divisional Forest Officers.*—The Conference agreed to retain the present designation of "District Forest Officer".

12. *Foresters—Creation of State Cadre.*—The status quo should continue.

13. *Patta sandalwood—Private legislation.*—The District Forest Officers with knowledge of sandalwood extraction might submit suitable proposals after duly taking the advice of the Government Pleaders if necessary, for the commutation and acquisition of private sandalwood trees.